

Boston, January 18, 1852.

My dear Sir,

Mr. Parker informs me that he is going to leave, on Tuesday morning, to give a series of lectures at various towns & cities through Central & Western New York, & to preach for you on Sunday next. I have long been intending to write to you, and have been on the watch for an opportunity to send you a ~~few~~ small parcel - and a better I could not readily offer.

It is sometime since I have heard from you directly, - but have been very glad to hear from you, from time to time, thro' the newspapers you have kindly sent me. I have had none for 3 or 4 weeks past, and conclude that you may have ceased your dealing with "G. F. Constock, Esq.". I should judge that there was little left of the man, unless it might be his impudence and hardness of assertion.

I felt quite sorry for the trouble I must have given you, respecting the employment of the Amer. Society's Agents in Central New York. At a meeting of the Exec. Committee, W. Phillips casually made use of an expression, which led me to think that you felt the Agents were interfering, just then, with ~~the~~ the plan you had on foot for raising the necessary funds for the Syracuse Rescue trials. The expression, if I remember rightly, was that you

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did not take it kindly, that they came into
your region at the time they did. - It became
my duty to write at once to Abby K. Foster on
the matter. Led by the expression of Phillips,
I doubtless represented you (I speak of the whole
Syracuse Committee) feelings more strongly
than I should have done, - and yet not more
strongly than I thought it necessary to do. Our
Committee were fixed, that nothing ought to be
done by us, which would interfere with the
work you were doing, or render it more difficult.
We had the impression (or I had) at that time, that,
as you contemplated the possible necessity of having
to raise \$10,000, you would need the entire field
of your State, Westward of Syracuse, to do it in.
- It was in that state of mind that I wrote to
Mr. Foster. She, it seems, was much astonished
at the representation I had made of your views
& feelings, & when she wrote to you, I presume
expressed that astonishment. - But, I believe,
all has been explained, & settled, satisfactorily to
all parties, long since. - My present object
is only to show you that I had no design to
give you trouble, or mis-state your views - (indeed
I know you would not suspect me of either) - and
that ~~what~~ what I did, I thought at the time
was rightly done.

Our Agents have had a tough time in New York, owing to the Severe Cold, & the amount of snow. Pillsbury & Ford are now returning home. I expect them here tomorrow. - Mr. & Mrs. Foster, & Miss Holley, will continue, I suppose, some time longer in New York.

Mr. Garrison has set aside a copy of his newly-published book for you. I shall also send a "Liberty Bell". -

R. W. Emerson is giving a very ~~interesting~~^{pleasant} course of lectures here - not quite so mystical & recondite as his wont is - & all the more agreeable, I suspect, to the bulk of the audience for that. There are some choice spirits, however, among us, who have a great contempt for anything they can understand, or, at least, for whatever other people can understand.

We are - i.e., I & my family - now ~~at~~ board at No. 9 Summer St., directly oppo. Trinity Church; - in fact, the house that Mr. Saml. Salisbury built & occupied, & which still belongs to his family. We should be much pleased to have you call.

The State is considerably stirred now on the Temperance question. A star has risen in the East - "down East" - called the Maine Liquor Law, which has been extraordinarily successful in suppressing the traffic in strong drinks in that State; a similar one, in all probability, will be passed by our Legislature

this winter. The Boston Liquordealers will be desperately mad. It is high time something were done in Boston to check the torrents of intoxicating drink which are rushing through the city, and sweeping thousands along to destruction. And as Boston, within a year, has manifested such a pure and lofty regard for Law, it is a favourable time for inviting her support to a strict and thorough Temperance Law.

Have you seen in any of your papers (the Chr. Register had it-) notice of the death of our dear young friend, who went with us to Niagara, &c., Sally Flint of Leicester? She died the day before Christmas. She had been visibly declining for 7 or 8 months. Her sickness was, on the whole, the most interesting one - beautiful it was, without exaggeration - that ever I knew. You doubtless will remember her being at your house with us; ~~and~~ a visit she very much enjoyed, and always spoke of with very great pleasure. During all her sickness, her leading idea, never forgotten, was to make every arrangement she possibly could, from the most minute upwards, for the comfort & well-being of her father & Mother during the remainder of their earthly journey. Her attention & care were not confined to them, but that was her chief object. She has left them very lonely - without a daughter - & their only son is settled away from home. With warmest love to all your household, in which Sarah joins,

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Most affectionately
Yours,
Saml. May, Jr.

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